



Sunset Hills United Presbyterian Church

900 Country Club Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
www.shupchurch.org

10:15 am WORSHIP
November 13, 2022
The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Who are the people nearest me that the Spirit is pressing me to get to know, come to appreciate, and ultimately join?

- The Rev. Dr. Willie J. Jennings

So Philip started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Queen of the Ethiopians.

- Acts 8:27

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prayer of Preparation

Call to Worship (based on Isaiah 53)

Liturgist: Marla Bruschi

Leader: Jesus was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

People: In Jesus's humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Leader: He is now risen, sitting at the right hand of God, interceding for all victims of injustice this day!

People: Praise be to God! Amen!

*Hymn: *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

No. 411

*Call to Confession

In humility and in faith, let us seek God's forgiveness by praying together with the prayer of confession. Let us pray.

*Unison Prayer of Confession (based on Acts 8)

We confess our participation in the humiliation of others, sovereign Lord. We participate in an economy based on the exploitation of workers making less in one day than we typically spend on our lunch. We have unkind thoughts towards those suffering from physical and mental illness, those whose appearance is unlike our own, and those whose ways of being do not reflect what we call normal. Forgive our judgments, merciful Lord. Create Jesus's spirit within us, that we may honor others as you have honored us in Jesus' love. We pray this in his holy name.

(Silent Confession)

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God exalted Jesus Christ to God's own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins. In Jesus Christ, we have our redemption. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Response: *The Gloria*

**Now let our voices raise; Alleluia! Amen!
To give to God our praise; Alleluia! Amen!
Mercy and grace abound! In God our lives are found!
Long may our joy resound; Alleluia! Amen!**

*The Passing of the Peace, American Sign Language

Speaker: Peace be with you.

Respond: And also with you.

Anthem: *Down to the River to Pray*

K. Medema

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Story Time

New Testament Reading: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ But an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south^[a] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert road. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And behold, an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a minister of the Can'dace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of all her treasure, had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot." ³⁰ So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless some one guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture which he was reading was this:

"As a sheep led to the slaughter
or a lamb before its shearer is dumb,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken up from the earth."

³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, pray, does the prophet say this, about himself or about some one else?" ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this scripture he told him the good news of Jesus. ³⁶ And as they went along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What is to prevent my being baptized?"^[b] ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught up Philip; and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip was found at Azo'tus, and passing on he preached the gospel to all the towns till he came to Caesare'a.

Leader: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *A New Sight of Love*

Rev. Laura Strauss

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Reception of New Member Jim McKeen

Affirmation of Faith: The Larger Catechism, 7.523-7.524

Leader: What is the Ninth Commandment?

People: The Ninth Commandment is “Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.”

Leader: What are the duties required in the Ninth Commandment?

People: The duties required in the Ninth Commandment are: the preservation and promoting of truth between man and man, and the good name of our neighbor, as well as our own; appearing and standing for truth; and from the heart, sincerely, freely, clearly, and fully, speaking the truth, and only the truth, in matters of judgment and justice, and in all other things whatsoever; a charitable esteem of our neighbors, loving, desiring, and rejoicing in their good name; sorrowing for, and covering of their infirmities; freely acknowledging of their gifts and graces, and unwillingness to admit of an evil report concerning them; discouraging talebearers, flatterers, and slanderers; love and care of our own good name, and defending it when need requireth; keeping of lawful promises; studying and practicing whatsoever things are true, honest, lovely, and of good report.

Joys & Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presenting Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

*Response: *Doxology*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE

Hymn: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

No. 280

*Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you: wherever he may send you: may he guide you through the wilderness: protect you through the storm: may he bring you home rejoicing: at the wonders he has shown you: may he bring you home rejoicing: once again into our doors.

*Response

*Postlude

**If you are able to do so, please stand.*

Happy Birthday to Leslie Ney (13th), Ethan Strauss (18th) & Robert Wingold (18th)!

The Chancel Flowers were given today by the Abbott family in memory of Rita Abbott and the Dawson family in memory of Colleen.

The Flower Delivery will be made by Jenn Kennedy and Maralee Williams.

Our Greeters today were Jenn Kennedy and Maralee Williams.

Deacon Food Drive Donations for November: Soup & Canned Vegetables

Special Items Needed for Refugees & Immigrants: Dried Beans, Lentils, Rice, Flour, Cooking Oil, Sugar, Spices (Salt, Pepper, Garlic Powder, Chili Powder, Turmeric) & Disposable Diapers

Hospital visits by Pastor Laura can be scheduled through the church office. If you or someone you know is having surgery or is in the hospital, please let us know so that Pastor Laura can be there to visit and pray with you and your loved ones.

PRAYER LIST

Prayer Circle – Savy Dunlevy and Debbie Edwards

November -

October - The family of Barbara Howell (Carla Greenfield's sister), The victims of Hurricane Ian, Roberta McIntyre, the family of Marilyn Richards (Ray Bowman's sister)

Ongoing - Nancy Brumfield, Eneless Frank, Mya Kelly, Joanna, Becca, our Mission Co-Workers: Rev. Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar and their children; Cindy Anna Flor & Nathan who serve at the U.S.-Mexico Border, our sister church, Litchenza CCAP in Malawi, Africa, Pabatso Makhalanyane, Healthcare and all Essential Workers



WELCOME TO SUNSET HILLS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

CONNECT with us!

Phone: 412-561-6261

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Address: 900 Country Club Dr. Pgh, PA 15228

Pastor: Rev. Laura E. Strauss

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. William Gracey

Website: www.shupchurch.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shupchurch/>

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun, Nov 13

9:00 am Adult Sunday School – Library
10:15 am Worship - Sanctuary
10:45 am Children’s Church
5:00 pm Thanksgiving Banquet – Findley Hall
5:00 pm AA Meeting – Wilson Hall

Mon, Nov 14

11:30 am J.A.M.
1:00 pm Findley Hall Bible Study
6:00 pm Troop #46920 – Room 110

Tues, Nov 15

1:00 pm Wilson Hall Bible Study
7:00 pm Square Dance Class – Crystal Hall

Wed, Nov 16

6:30 pm Tai Chi – Crystal Hall

Fri, Nov 18

5:00 pm AA Meeting – Findley Hall

Sun, Nov 20

9:00 am Adult Sunday School – Library
10:15 am Worship - Sanctuary
10:45 am Children’s Church
11:30 am Hanging of the Greens
5:00 pm AA Meeting – Findley Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Chancel & Bell Choir:** No rehearsal this week for the chancel or bell choir.
- ❖ **Hanging of the Greens:** Everyone is invited to stay after the worship service next Sunday, November 20th to help the deacons decorate the church for the holiday season.
- ❖ **Cookies & Cocoa Fellowship Hour:** The CE commission will be holding a special fellowship hour every Sunday during Advent; Nov. 27th, Dec. 4th, Dec. 11th & Dec. 18th.
- ❖ **Deacon Christmas Cookie Sale Donations needed:** The Deacons will hold their annual Christmas Cookie Sale on Saturday, December 3rd from 10:00 am - Noon. They are in need of donations. Donations will be accepted on Friday, December 2nd from 6:00 - 8:00 pm or on Saturday morning beginning at 8:30 am in the kitchen. Please wrap all cookies individually (2 per bag) and mark them if they contain peanuts/peanut butter/other nuts, etc.
- ❖ **2023 Per Capita:** Our 2023 Per Capita has been assessed at \$35.70. Please consider making a separate donation to cover the cost of each church member in your family. Thank you.